

KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & ENVIRONMENT

Moderator: Aimee Rosenow
March 25, 2014
10:00 a.m. CT

Operator: Good morning. My name is Tiffany and I will be your conference operator today. At this time I would like to welcome everyone to the Statewide Population Health Conference Call.

All lines have been placed on mute to prevent any background noise. After the speakers' remarks, there will be a question and answer session. If you would like to ask a question during this time, simply press star then the number one on your telephone keypad. If you would like to withdraw your question, press the pound key. Thank you.

Ms. Rosenow, you may begin your conference.

Aimee Rosenow: Good morning everyone. Welcome to the March Statewide Population Health Call. I'm Aimee Rosenow. I am with the Office of Communications here at KDHE.

So we have another full agenda this month. We'll be starting off with an update from Dr. Moser, Secretary and State Health Officer, followed by Nathan Bainbridge with our legislative update. Next we'll hear from Charlie Hunt our State Epidemiologist. Mindee Reece will provide an update from our Bureau of Community Health Systems. And Jane Shirley and Ashley Muninger are here to provide an update from the Center for Population Health. Then we'll hear from Laura Ross and Lori Boline with our Kansas Health and Environmental Laboratories for an update as well. Then we'll have the Communications Office update followed by a Preparedness update.

So we'll start with Dr. Moser.

Robert Moser: Good morning I appreciate everybody being available for the call today and participating. I wanted to give you an update on our Healthy Kansas 2020 work. As you know this has been a work in progress for, really, the last four years with a great deal of the activity surrounding our development of our crosscutting themes and priority strategies.

On the 24th of February we had a large number of stakeholders that come together for further work on our Healthy Kansas 2020 plan to start developing approaches to meet some of those priority strategies and then some of the activities that support those approaches. A great deal of work went into that and we've been working through a number of the breakout group notes and looking at the voting tally on the activities that ranked the highest and how they fit into our crosscutting themes and we'll be putting a lot of that information back out across our stakeholders to review and to add input as we continue to develop, basically, what would become our state public health improvement plan.

And I know Jane will probably be talking a little bit later about some of our activities planned around this summer to look at communities that have done their community health assessments and community health improvement plans and then see how the state public health improvement plan and the local plans will align and where we may be able to find some common work effort and to improve the outcomes in our communities as we go forward.

So there continues to be a great deal of activity at KDHE across a number of our programs, but with that I'll probably leave the rest of the details up to the folks here in the room.

Aimee Rosenow: All right. Thank you, Dr. Moser. And now we'll hear from Nathan Bainbridge with the legislative update.

Nathan Bainbridge: Thank you, Aimee. Again, Nathan Bainbridge here with the legislative update. There are three bills I want to give an update on today. There's H.B. 2552, the prompt pay legislation, which will require the KanCare MCOs to be

subject to the prompt pay insurance requirement that other insurance is subject to.

That was amended in the House and is now in the Senate and will be on General Orders today. So the Senate will bring that up and debate it. We believe the legislation will pass, but it will remain to be seen if any amendments will be added to that or if there's other legislative pieces that senators wish to try to attach to that. Our preference would be that they pass it out cleanly with no amendments, but we'll see how that process goes today.

There's another piece of legislation, H.B. 2613, and this – the original intent of the bill was to allow KDHE to issue birth certificates for a resulting stillbirth and they changed the definition of stillbirth from 350 grams of weight to 20 weeks of gestational age or above. This went through the House, no problem. In the Senate Judiciary committee, it was amended by Senator Pilcher-Cook so that certificates could be issued for miscarriages and would also require hospitals or institutions and physicians to report miscarriages to KDHE.

Obviously this increases the reporting for institutions and physicians and we're looking at the bill right now. We do have some serious concerns about the bill and that's not scheduled to be heard yet in the Senate, but could be heard as early as tomorrow. We have reason to believe there'll be further amendments which may soften the bill a little bit, but if that may affect you, I would certainly recommend looking at that legislation.

Finally there's H.B. 2556. That's the retail liquor bill which will allow retailers like grocery stores and whatnot to obtain a liquor license. We heard some concerns about this bill increasing access to alcohol, especially by minors, and the associated public health consequences of that. And additionally, the bill would loosen up some of the restrictions on minors being able to serve alcohol in establishments.

KDHE has chosen not to weigh in on that, but again if that's an issue that you believe that you would likely be concerned about or participate in, certainly take a look at that and let your legislators know about any concerns you may have.

And that's all I've got unless there's questions.

Aimee Rosenow: We'll take questions at the end.

Nathan Bainbridge: OK. Thank you.

Aimee Rosenow: Thank you, Nathan. And now let's hear from Charlie Hunt our State Epidemiologist.

Charlie Hunt: Thank you, Aimee, and good morning everyone. I have two updates for you this morning. The first issue I'd like to discuss is updated information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on Healthcare-Associated Infections. The CDC is planning to host a press conference tomorrow, March 26 at noon Eastern time or 11:00 our time that will highlight new healthcare-associated infections data.

Really there'll be two major publications. The first is an updated estimate of healthcare associated infections burden. The numbers of infections that occur each year in United States were estimates that were last published in 2002, I believe. And so this will be a good update for that.

The second report will be a state by state report on healthcare associated infections and this report will look and feel very different from reports that have been issued in the past. It will highlight three major healthcare-associated infections: central line-associated bloodstream infections, catheter-associated urinary tract infections, and surgical site infections, particularly colon surgery and abdominal hysterectomy. It will show differences over time between the 2008 and 2009 national baselines and 2012 data again at the national level and at the state level it will show the differences between the state data in 2012 and what we would've expected to see in 2012 if we were experiencing the same (rates) that occurred in 2008 and 2009.

The states have expressed some concerns about the format of the report and we've shared those concerns with CDC. I think it's probably likely that not all the concerns will be addressed and so we are preparing some talking points on the report. Also there will be prepared to address and respond to the inquiries that come. We did hold a teleconference yesterday with members of our

Healthcare-Associated Infections Program Advisory Group and I briefed them on some of the details that are reported. Again, we have talking points available that we'll be able to send out as soon as the embargo is over tomorrow at 11:00.

So if you're interested in that please – I'll be looking for that information and again we'll put that out through our network of healthcare-associated infection preventionists at the hospitals.

The next issue I want to talk about is a new regulation that KDHE is adopting regarding occupational exposures. You may recall during the 2013 legislative session, there was a bill in the legislature, House Bill 2183, that essentially authorized KDHE to issue new regulations for occupational exposure protection; and just very briefly the state law that was in existence before they passed House Bill 2183 limited occupational exposure and management to HIV and also to specific settings such as corrections, emergency medical services, and law enforcement.

The law did not address other bloodborne pathogens such as hepatitis B virus or hepatitis C virus, nor did it deal with diseases that could be spread through respiratory droplets or through the air. And healthcare workers were not covered. And so just in 2183 passed a lot for us to expand to issue the regulations for management and testing and we think overall will result in better worker protection.

Very briefly the law does expand our authority to include healthcare workers in regulation and it essentially requires that when an exposure occurs, such as a needle stick or some other exposure, that it requires the worker to report that incident to the designated infection control officer within an institution within four hours. The infection control officer is then required to make a determination of whether or not that exposure constitutes a risk of transmission and, if so, then that infection control officer will be required to direct that the source person or patient be tested.

Our – We expect this regulation to become effective probably around the middle of April. We expect that we'll publish in the Kansas register some

time within the next week or so. We do have the draft versions of the regulation posted on our website and we've taken a very collaborative approach to drafting these regulations including the emergency medical services community, folks in the hospital association and others.

So again if you're interested in that information please take a look at our website and I'd be happy to answer any additional, more specific questions on a one on one basis. So please let us know. Thank you.

Aimee Rosenow: Thank you, Charlie. And now we'll hear from Mindee Reece from our Bureau Community Health Systems.

Mindee Reece: Good morning everyone. I wanted to inform you today that we have two key positions vacant in the Bureau Community Health Systems. The Trauma Program Director position that Roseanne Rutkowski held for many years is vacant as is the Primary Care Program Director position. Both Roseanne Rutkowski and Barbara Huske retired from state service on March 14th. With the Primary Care Program Director we've asked Sara Roberts, our Rural Health Program Director, to serve as Acting Director for the Primary Care Program.

We're certainly aware that we're loading her down, but we want to assess the needs for that Primary Care Program Director position before we jump on ahead. So we have asked Sara to lead that program and, so far, it is going very well. The Trauma Program Director position is currently filled by me. I'm Acting Trauma Program Director and learning a lot.

We posted the position for application through March 13th and received a handful. Yesterday I made the decision to go ahead and re-post the position. So it is currently open and it's going to stay open until filled. So the requisition number if you want to look at it on the state job list is [176860](#) and we've asked our partners at the Board of Nursing and the Kansas Hospital Association to also share that information with folks.

What we're ideally looking for is someone who has experience in a clinical setting preferably with trauma-related activities or critical care. Somebody who can manage a budget and the political environment related to the statutes

and regulations, somebody who's a good leader and good thinker and wants to work in a very exciting state job.

So if any of you are interested or know someone who is interested, please contact me. My telephone number is 785-296-0201 and my e-mail address is mreece@kdheks.gov. We really are going to hold out until we find the right person for that position. It is a critical position within our department and we need the right person with right blend of skills. So if you're interested please contact me and if you know somebody please tell them.

And that's all I have.

Aimee Rosenow: OK. Thank you, Mindee. And now we'll hear from Jane Shirley with our Center for Population Health.

Jane Shirley: Good morning everyone. I have a number of calendar reminders and don't turn off your ears because I'm also going to talk to you a little bit about why you need to attend these and these are not just for local public health. These are for broad invitation to a number of partners.

Dr. Moser already mentioned the Impacting Population Health 2014 regional meetings. We're going to be taking this opportunity to come out across the state again and discuss community health improvement plans and the ways that the state health improvement plan and Healthy Kansas 2020 can connect with the local community plans for benefits for health in every community. I want to be sure you realize Dr. Moser will be attending and participating in all events. So I think you all want to be there to have the opportunity to hear his wisdom and also the general discussion that will be held at those meetings.

We also have just received the opportunity to add a Kansas City area event and that will be in June. I do not have the date and location finalized, but we hope to do that in the next few days. So be watching for that date and location to be announced and shared broadly.

Our target audience for these events is anyone who has been participating in the community and community health assessment work in your community coalition, and in your community health improvement planning work. So I

hope everyone on the line will both register and think about who you need to bring with you to those events to create a really good dialogue about how we can use what we've all learned to make big changes in the health of Kansans.

To register for those events you go to [Kansas TRAIN](#) and the meeting number for that is 1049339 and I will also remind you that all the details for the meeting registration will be in the transcript of this meeting. Also for, any of these numbers or questions on these meetings please contact me at any time. My e-mail is jshirley@kdheks.gov.

On to another one I want to invite and remind you all that the Governor's Public Health Conference, the annual conference that brings together a broad set of partners around a number of topics on public health, maternal and child health and addressing disparity, The Governor's Public Health Conference which will be April 29th to May 1st in Wichita at the Marriott. That registration is also on [Kansas TRAIN](#) and that number is 1048441.

I want to mention a couple of other opportunities for education and training. One of them is regarding the transition to ICD-10 coding which is applicable to any provider that does billing so there are many of you on the line. There are some opportunities for training that are being provided in a couple of different ways. One of them is on [Kansas TRAIN](#). We have two courses that are excellent starting points about coding and ICD-10 and the need for the coding transition and what that means.

And then some live courses are being offered from KAHIMA, K-A-H-I-M-A is the organization and they have a website where you can find additional details. These courses will go on through October and would be something to consider for any organization that is going to be needing to make this transition.

Switching gears, I want to mention that we have a lot of work going on for the KanCare component of KDHE and I hope that you all are taking a serious look at two activities. One of them is to get the planning and preparedness tool for health homes completed and that is due on April 1st.

I want to encourage any potential health home provider to complete that tool and get it returned. Even if you're simply contemplating being a resource for health promotion you want to help partners in your community provide health home services as a potential subcontractor or if you're thinking about doing all six course services. I strongly encourage you to get that document completed and returned. It does not commit you to any sort of contract agreement. It does not indicate that you are certain about what your role would be. It just notifies the MCOs that you want to be part of this list of potential resources in your community and a lot more will be learned following that, but it's important that you get your organization's name into the pool.

And to follow up to that I strongly want to encourage you all to attend the Health Home regional meetings for providers which will be held April 2nd through 9th across the state of Kansas and there are six of those scheduled. I would encourage you to go to the KanCare web page to the provider section to access that full list and you would register through that link they provide on that web page. But I think this is an opportunity for any potential provider to understand more fully what their role could potentially be in the community as being in the health home provider group.

And then finally I want to mention that we are really excited about an upcoming event that will be on April 17th in Wichita. We're calling it the Kansas Accreditation Readiness Project Summit, KARP for short, we hope you all will take the bait and come to our event. We are going to be looking at public health accreditation from the lens of documentation, what's involved, what are some good practices, what are some shared practices. We are excited that David Stone will be joining us from the PHAB Central Office. He will be giving us a content expertise as well as Shirley Orr and Sonja Armbruster who have a lot of experience doing site visits and looking at documentation.

As I said, that will be on April 17th in Wichita and the registration for that is also on [Kansas TRAIN](#), its number 1048695. And again, for any questions on any of those, please contact me. Thanks Aimee.

Aimee Rosenow: Thank you, Jane. There are a lot of really great events going on across the state, so thank you for sharing. And for Rural Health we have Ashley Muninger with an update.

Ashley Muninger: Thanks, Aimee. Hello everybody.

The state Office of Rural Health is hosting a series of population health webinars this year. Each webinar is going to be no more than 30 minutes in length in health teacher programs and services that impact population health in Kansas. The second webinar in this series is going to be scheduled for Monday, April 14th from 12 to 12:30 Central Time.

And so during this webinar participants will learn about the WorkWell Kansas initiative and if you're not familiar with WorkWell, it's a statewide initiative that provides leadership and resources for this and organizations across Kansas to report work site wellness. And then during this initiative, businesses have another unique opportunity to attend training where they're going to learn about how health impacts their individual organization and during that time they are able to use the knowledge they gain to develop a work site wellness plan and ultimately a state assessment.

This is an event to engage and connect community businesses and various institutions throughout the state. It's also a chance for new leaders to develop and ultimately create positive change for the health of the state.

Again, this webinar is going to be held on Monday, April 14th, at noon and we'll send a link to register for the webinar and the call in information will be provided. Thank you.

Aimee Rosenow: Thank you, Ashley. And now we'll turn it over to Lori Boline with the Kansas Health and Environmental Laboratories to give an update on LIMS.

Lori Boline: Good morning. Jumping right in our LIM System we are having daily progress now. Everything is starting to flow very well. Many of those issues that we've had in the past are now starting to – we've had them fixed and reporting is much smoother. Thank you for your patience during the transition. We had a few growing pains but we're getting there.

The lab is working very hard to provide the best possible turnaround time that we can offer. Still, if there are any issues, please call me, 785-296-1646. Moving ahead with our LIM System, our next step will be testing the auto fax which is just like it sounds, you'll have a fax delivery of your health report. This could greatly improve the turnaround times and how quickly you get your hard copies of the report. We will use several facilities to test this before we turn it on for everyone, but we're, probably within the next week or so, going to start doing that.

And shortly after we have everybody turned to the auto fax delivery, then we will start testing the portal. This will take a lot longer to implement. There are several factors. We have to be on site to do the training and to implement at each facility, but that will allow you to go online and print your report on demand at any time. So this is the ultimate goal and we feel like this is going to be just a wonderful thing for us to be able to facilitate.

Again, if you have any questions, concerns, please call me. The number is 785-296-1646. And my e-mail is lboline@kdheks.gov. So e-mail is a better way to get a hold of me. We will send in this whole system and that has a few issues with it too, if we can do anything let us – let me know. Thank you.

Aimee Rosenow: Thank you, Lori. And now we'll hear from Laura Ross also with our Health and Environmental Laboratories with an update on packing and shipping courses.

Laura Ross: Thank you. The packing and shipping course has been down for an update that refers to the year, as you guys all know, and since then we've been working on trying to get a better product to our partners. During this time we have found a course for just that. The courses offered for this is called Packing and Shipping Division 6.2 Materials 2014. The course I.D. number is 1048174 on [Kansas TRAIN](#). This course was recommended because it provides other necessary information to ensure compliant packaging and shipping.

Another great part about this course is that it offers two-page credit upon completion to ensure our partners across Kansas receive a full training to fully

support their responsibilities and sent from the laboratory. Kansas is offering a supplemental course that will cover evidence control measures. Upon completion of the packaging and shipping course, we at the KDHE Laboratories are encouraging our partners to complete course called Preparing Clinical Steps in Relation to Chemical or Biological Exposure Using Evidence Control Measures to receive their certificates for packaging and shipping in Kansas.

This course is in the review stage. It will be available to our partners in the beginning of April. Please contact me, Laura Ross at lross@kdheks.gov for more information. Thank you.

Aimee Rosenow: Thank you, Laura. And now we have the communications update from Miranda Steele and myself. On Thursday, we're going to be hosting crisis communication training in Scott City, that's March 27th. And since that training filled up quickly – we also want to let you know that there is a basic public information officer training session that will be offered by the Kansas Department and Emergency Management.

There is a class in Garden City, April 15th and 16th and there's also a joint information center training following that on April 17th. Hays will also have a training session June 4th and 5th; there'll be one in Wichita, August 12th and 13th that also have the JIC training following that on August 14th. And then there'll be a basic PIO training in Frontenac on October 14th and 15th. All of those classes are available through [Kansas TRAIN](#). So you can go there for more information.

We also want to let you know that [KDHE's annual report](#) is available online at kdheks.gov. It's on the home page under Data and Reports. It's right next to our Twitter feed, so you can't miss it. So if you're interested in that, check it out on our home page.

And tomorrow the County Health Rankings will be released, so we wanted to update you on that. If you have any questions let us know. We have a few observances coming up in April, the first is National Public Health Week which is in April 7th through the 13th and you can get more information on that

at nphw.org. April is also Minority Health Month and Denim Day will be April 23rd.

And now I want to turn it over now to Miranda with an update.

Miranda Steele: Thanks, Aimee. Again this is Miranda Steele, Communications Director at KDHE and I do have an announcement on the personnel side of things.

I have accepted a job with Sunflower Health Plan, one of the three managed care organizations in our KanCare program and I'll be their Marketing and Communications Manager. So that means that I will be able to interface even more with providers and Medicaid members.

Of course for me this news is very bittersweet because everyday that I've been at KDHE, the public health system in our state has left a positive impression on me. And so that is something I'll certainly take with me. I appreciate all of the expertise and teachings that had come from everyone in our public health system so that includes all of you on the phone and obviously everyone here at KDHE.

So I appreciate your support and I'll continue to stay in touch on things, so that's the news I have. Thank you, Aimee.

Aimee Rosenow: Certainly. Thank you, Miranda. We'll all definitely miss you here.

And now we have an update from Jamie Hemler with our Preparedness Program.

Jamie Hemler: Thank you, Aimee. Congrats, Miranda.

Just jumping off of the updates that Laura provided on the packaging and shipping course. I know Preparedness also received several questions about this and that is in relation to the local work plan, item at number 9J. So that involves renewing that packaging and shipping certification. We will make sure this information is also sent out through the Preparedness Program email update this Friday.

The other update I have is our cooperative agreement guidance we received last week for the next grant year. As some of you may have heard, there is a 3.3 percent increase on the PHEP side and a 36.19 percent decrease on the HPP side. We were anticipating a 30 percent cut to HPP but we actually did fare better than some of our neighboring states. Texas took a 39.39 percent cut, Iowa took a 42.26 percent cut and Missouri took a 42.84 percent cut. Overall these cuts range from 12.4 percent to 42.95 percent across the nation.

Conversations will be taking place with partners regarding these cuts and what they mean for the program, but right now we are working on the narratives and the capability plans for the application and we're aiming to have all this submitted by the May 9th deadline.

We will get a copy of the grant guidance out to you in this week's Friday update. And that's all I have.

Aimee Rosenow: Thank you so much, Jamie. Tiffany, we are now ready now for questions.

Operator: At this time I would like to remind everyone in order to ask a question press star then the number one on your telephone keypad. We'll pause for just a moment to compile up the Q&A roster.

Your first question comes from the line of Brenda Drennan. Brenda?

Aimee Rosenow: Hi, Brenda, what can we do for you.

(Brenda Drennan): No, I don't have a question, sorry.

Aimee Rosenow: Oh, OK.

Operator: OK, just one moment. Your next question comes from the line of Cindy Mullen.

Aimee Rosenow: Hi, Cindy.

Cindy Mullen: Hello. I was wondering if Laura, I believe her last name is Ross, could give her e-mail again, she gave the information on the packing and shipping course.

Laura Ross: Yes. My e-mail is lross@kdheks.gov.

Cindy Mullen: Thank you.

Laura Ross: You're welcome.

Operator: Again at this time if you would like to ask a question, please press star then the number one on your telephone keypad. We'll pause for just a moment to compile the Q&A roster.

Your next question comes from the line of Karen Haug.

Aimee Rosenow: Hi, Karen.

Karen Haug: Yes. I have two questions. First of all the preparedness tool for health homes that's due April 1, is there a location that we can sign at? Is that on the website or where do we sign that?

Jane Shirley: Sure, Karen, that's on the KanCare web page. If you can, just go there and click on the provider box and scroll down just a little way and you'll see the connection to the tool and instructions for the tool. If you can't find it easily, send me an e-mail and I'll get you straight there.

Karen Haug: OK. And your e-mail?

Jane Shirley: jshirley@kdheks.gov.

Karen Haug: OK. I wasn't sure who was talking to, certainly, OK.

Jane Shirley: All right, I'm here.

Karen Haug: OK. And then my other question is on the packing and shipping. Did I understand right that for the Kansas certification we have to take both courses?

Laura Ross: Yes, that's true.

Karen Haug: OK, and that second course information is going to be sent out in the updated – the update for public health preparedness?

Laura Ross: Yes.

Karen Haug: OK. All right. That's all I had.

Aimee Rosenow: OK. Thank you, Karen.

Operator: Your next question comes from the line of Brenda Nickel.

Aimee Rosenow: Hi, Brenda.

Jason Orr: Hi, I have a quick question on the – oh, sorry this is Jason Orr I had a – I'm not Brenda, yes, on the occupational exposure, it was mentioned the infection control officer, is that a staff member or will that need to be a contracted physician for occupational health?

Charlie Hunt: Hi, this is Charlie Hunt. No, it is the designated infection control officer for the institution that is required with the Ryan White CARE Act.

Jason Orr: OK, OK.

Charlie Hunt: Yes, you should have a designated infection control officer in your facility.

Jason Orr: That would be – yes.

Charlie Hunt: And there'll be – the regulation does include a definition for that. So you can refer to that if you have questions, but for now it would not be something that's contracted out generally speaking.

Jason Orr: OK. Yes, yes, we were just wondering in terms of reporting for worker's compensation for the county.

Charlie Hunt: Yes, that is a good point. The – We can – I did consult with the Department of Labor here regarding worker's compensation and overlap and one of the main points that they wanted to make is that in general if there is an incident, it would require (notification) under the Worker's Compensation Act.

We are planning to do some training and provide some additional information about the regulation in the coming months. I'm working very closely with

members from the Kansas Medical Services Association. I think there are also plans for some upcoming webinars and conferences and articles in the newsletter, et cetera. So we'll be giving more details out soon.

Jason Orr: OK.

Aimee Rosenow: Thanks, Jason.

Operator: Your next question comes from the line of Anne Gray.

Aimee Rosenow: Hi, Anne.

Anne Gray: HI. I have a question for Jane. Talking about transition to ICD-10 coding, you said that there's two classes on TRAIN, do you happen to have those class numbers?

Jane Shirley: I do. This is Jane again. So the first one is, Introduction to the World of Coding, it's 1048532 and the second one is called, ICD Coding Basic Conventions and Guidelines and that number is 1048055.

Anne Gray: Thanks a lot.

Jane Shirley: You're welcome.

Operator: Again if you have – if you would like to ask a question, please press star then the number one on your telephone keypad.

Your next question comes from the line of Karen Haug.

Aimee Rosenow: Hi, Karen.

Operator: Karen your line is open. OK, and at this time we have no further questions.

Aimee Rosenow: Thank you, Tiffany.

Operator: You're welcome.

Aimee Rosenow: Thank you everyone for joining us today. Mark on your calendars April 22nd for the next Statewide Population Health Call. And have a good week. Thank you.

Operator: This concludes today's conference call. You may now disconnect.

END